GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:777
ANSWERED ON:29.02.2000
NATIONAL BLINDNESS CONTROL PROGRAMMES IN BIHAR
RAJO SINGH

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the funds released under the National Blindness Control Programme to Bihar during 1999-2000 and likely to be allocated during 2000-2001;

(b) the percentage of blindness rate in Bihar; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to minimise the percentage of blindness in the State?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SH SHANMUGAM)
(a) Funds released to Bihar during 1999-2000 are Rs.105 Lakhs and funds provisionally allocated for 2000-2001 is Rs. 132.50 Lakhs.

(b) Prevalence of blindness in Bihar, as estimated in National Survey (1986) was 1.28%

(c) Steps taken to reduce the prevalence of blindness in Bihar include:-
1. Grant-in-Aid to District Blindness Control Societies;

2. Cash Grants to the State for salaries of Eye Care Personnel;

3. GIA to NGOs for performing Cataract Surgery;

4. Commodity Assistance from Government of India;

5. Training of Personnel and creation of Public awareness.

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